

# **THE NEW COLOSSUS**

By Emma Lazarus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,  
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;  
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand  
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame  
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name  
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand  
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command  
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.  
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she  
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,  
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,  
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.  
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,  
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

- The Statue of Liberty is a symbol of tolerance and represents the America's willingness to open its doors to people in need of a home. Do you think the recent fears over terrorism increase xenophobia in the U.S., making it more difficult for people around the world, particularly from the Middle East, to find a welcome home here? Why or why not? Should U.S. immigration policies be reformed? If changes are made, what value will they place on the principles symbolized by the Statue of Liberty?
- Why would Arabs and Muslims want to migrate to the United States today? Discuss a time in United States history when immigration of a certain group of people was restricted due to prejudice or political motivations.
- Currently there is a tremendous exodus of people from Afghanistan. Keeping the last five lines of "New Colossus" in mind, should the U.S. welcome these refugees?